

IN THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-101, 103, 108, 113 and 128-191 were previously cancelled. Claim 102 is currently amended. Claims 105, 114 and 115 are currently cancelled. Claims 104, 106, 107, 109-112 and 116-127 are carried forward, all as follows.

Claims 1-101 (Cancelled)

102. (Currently Amended) A method for controlling rollers in a dampening agent application roller train of a printing unit including:

providing a source of a dampening agent;

providing a first roller having a first roller surface adapted for taking up a dampening agent from said source of dampening agent;

providing a second roller having a second roller surface contacting said first roller surface and receiving said dampening agent directly from said first roller surface;

providing a forme cylinder having a forme cylinder surface speed of rotation;

providing a forme cylinder drive motor;

using said forme cylinder drive motor and rotating said forme cylinder at said forme cylinder surface speed of rotation;

including said first and said second rollers in a roller train usable for conveying said dampening agent to said forme cylinder;

providing a first roller drive motor for driving said first roller;

rotating said first roller at a first roller surface speed using said first roller drive motor;

providing said first roller surface speed at less than 2 m/s;

providing a second roller drive motor for driving said second roller at a second roller surface speed independently of said first roller;

controlling each of said first roller drive motor, and said second roller drive motor motors and said forme cylinder drive motor independently of each other;

rotating said second roller at said a second roller surface speed, different from greater than said first roller surface speed using said second roller drive motor;

selecting said second roller surface speed being greater than said first roller surface speed;

selecting both said first roller surface speed and said second roller surface speed being less than said forme cylinder surface speed of rotation;

setting both of said first roller surface speed and said second roller surface speed as a function of said forme cylinder surface speed;

selecting forming a slippage between said first roller surface and said second roller surface by said controlling of each of said first roller drive motor and said second roller drive motor motors independently, said selected slippage resulting from said difference between said first roller surface speed and said second roller surface speed;

controlling said selected slippage between said first roller surface and said second roller surface speeds, using said first and second drive motors;

setting said selected slippage between said first roller surface and said second roller surface as a function of said forme cylinder surface speed of said forme cylinder of said printing unit; and

controlling setting an amount of said dampening agent supplied to said forme cylinder using said roller train by controlling said selected slippage between said first roller surface and said second roller surface speeds as said function of said surface speed of said forme cylinder surface speed.

103. (Cancelled)

104. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 102 further including selecting an ink for use in printing by said forme cylinder, forming a mixture of said ink and said dampening agent, wherein a property of said ink includes an amount of said dampening agent mixed with it and setting said one of said surface speed of at least one of said first and second rollers and said slippage between said first and second rollers as a function of said property of said ink.

105. (Cancelled)

106. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 102 further including selecting an amount of ink required for printing using said forme cylinder and setting said one of said surface speed of at least one of said first and second rollers and said slippage between said first and second rollers as a function of said amount of ink required.

107. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 102 further including providing a dampening unit having said dampening agent source and said roller train and operating said dampening unit selectively in one of a first operating state and a second operating state wherein in said first operating state, said surface speed of said forme cylinder and said surface speed of said second roller are in a first relation with each other and wherein in said second operating state said surface speed of said forme cylinder and said surface speed of said second roller are in a second relation with each other, said first relation and said second relation being different.

108. (Cancelled)

109. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 102 further including operating said second roller as a traversing roller.

110. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 102 further including providing said first and second drive motors being infinitely variably controlled.

111. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 102 further including providing said first and second drive motors being electronically controlled.

112. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 102 further including providing a control console and controlling said first and second drive motors from said control console.

113-115. (Cancelled)

116. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 102 further including providing a third roller in said roller train, locating said third roller after, in a direction of travel of said dampening agent, said second roller and providing a drive between said second roller and said third roller.

117. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 116 further including providing said drive as a gear drive.

118. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 116 further including providing said drive as a friction drive.

119. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 116 further including providing a fourth roller in said roller train and locating said fourth roller after said third roller in said direction of travel of said dampening agent.

120. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 119 further including setting a slippage between at least one of said second roller and said third roller and said third roller and said fourth roller.

121. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 102 further including bringing a last roller in said roller train into contact with said forme cylinder by contacting one of a bridge roller and an ink application roller working with said forme cylinder.

122. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 102 further including providing a dampening agent reservoir as said dampening agent source and dipping said first roller into said dampening agent reservoir.

123. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 102 further including applying said dampening agent to said first roller as finely distributed droplets.

124. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 102 further including providing a computer and changing one of said surface speed of one of said first and said second roller and said slippage between said first and second roller using said computer.

125. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 107 further including selecting a forme cylinder surface speed being the same in both of said first and second operating states.

126. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 107 further including selecting a first forme cylinder surface speed in said first operating state and a second forme cylinder surface speed, different from said first forme cylinder surface speed in said second operating state.

127. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 107 further including providing at least one third roller arranged in said roller train downstream, in a direction of travel of said dampening agent and using said third roller for applying said dampening agent to said forme cylinder.

Claims 128-191 (Cancelled)